Smithsonian Timelines of the Ancient World

Starting with the emergence of life on earth, ***Timelines*** *covers the key periods of history. Each chapter begins with an overview of that period's milestones. A reference timeline at the top of every page indicates the current position in time of the topic being discussed.*

The main text is presented as a graph; columns of topics like Technology & Innovation and Food & Environment intersect with the world's regions in rows (labeled Americas, East Asia & Australasia, etc.) down the page. Brief descriptions of the important developments for a locale of the indicated time are accompanied by detailed drawings and photographs of various objects. A collection of reference maps and a comprehensive index completes ***Timelines****.*

This enjoyable book illuminates patterns and avenues of development that conventional history books cannot provide. It's a unique way to understand the word and our place in it. —Paul Kobar